

Thank you for contacting the offices of the Mayor and City Council. Your comments are appreciated and are key to improving communication between city government and its citizenry. Each office will read and consider your message, and respond accordingly.

Here is your message:

Your Name: Ronnie R Mendoza
 Your e-mail address: mendozaronnie@yahoo.com
 Subject: Swede Hill Neighborhood Association
 Comments

Hello my name is Ronnie R. Mendoza and I have lived at 817 East 13th street since 2000 and I have lived in the Swede Hill Neighborhood since 1993. I have seen many changes to the neighborhood since I have lived here and I have chosen to make this my home. I have been a very vocal supporter of the Petty Rezoning that is coming up for vote this Thursday evening. The neighborhood association has been ruled by the same individuals for quite sometime and with very little success. All the years that I have lived here and no one has been able to make positive changes towards the neighborhood, we are at a standstill. You have those individuals who believe the neighborhood should stay the same and you have others who want progress.

Technically we are not a downtown neighborhood but we are close enough to downtown to function like one. The vacant lots within the neighborhood and up and down East 12th street tell me one thing, NO PROGRESS. I tried to make a change this past year by running for President of the neighborhood association. I was voted into office but when I made my concern public that I felt the vote in favor or against the zoning change was unfair. I was quickly voted out or should I say there was a revote and I was no longer president so I resigned. The reason I felt the vote was not fair is that the association did not give but two days notice of the vote. There was not enough voting slips and there was no education done by the association to inform individuals of what exactly was being discussed. So the same people that always vote determined the future of our neighborhood. I know you have to be present to be involved but I believe the association has a responsibility to make sure it is a fair vote. I wanted to change all that during my tenure but like I stated previously I was never given the chance. I write this email because I want to make it clear that not everyone in the neighborhood is against this change. Those of us who are in support cannot be there for many of these important meetings. Also I wanted to make sure when you see the total vote against the change that you understand that vote included all renters living at the property, all property owners, and landlords of the properties. So in reality the vote was heavy on one side because you had from one household up to 3 renters and 2 property owners a total of five votes for one property. I made all this vocal at the OCEAN meeting but before I could make any changes I was out. So please take all this information into consideration as you move forward. We need responsible progress within the neighborhood and not old stagnant ideologies.

I wish I could be present to voice my concerns but my schedule does not allow too much flexibility. I am always available via phone. Thank you for your time. The individuals who represent the property owner who is requesting the change has bent over backwards helping the association but the current leaders either have vested interest in the neighborhood staying the same because of their own personal investments or are not engaged enough to care. I believe there is a happy compromise in this process that would help all parties. Please consider a favorable vote towards this because I feel that it would help the neighborhood move forward to the future.

Ronnie Mendoza 817 East 13th Street 512-480-0396